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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/712,453

Examiner

Vicky A. Johnson

Applicant(s)

KIRSTEIN, GERHARD

Art Unit

3682

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed September 26, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-11 and 13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                     | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 2-11 and 13 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiners statement of reasons for allowance: There is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of the claimed combination having a split belt pulley comprised of two pulleys, each pulley being respectively arranged at a respective axially opposite side of the first gearwheel and each pulley being respectively freely rotatable in relation to the first gearwheel, wherein the pulleys have axes of rotation which are in alignment with the axis of rotation of the first gearwheel; each of the pulleys has an annular, radially outwardly facing, belt running surface which is oriented to descend radially in the direction toward the first gearwheel and toward the other one of the pulleys and the running surfaces being oriented obliquely to the axis of rotation of the pulleys, wherein the belt running surfaces of the two pulleys define between them a generally V-shaped groove on which the toothed belt is received; at least one of the two pulleys being arranged to be axially movable in relationship to each other and in relationship to the first gearwheel; the engagement and disengagement device includes a disengager positioned and connected for acting on the pulleys and for applying a disengagement force which urges the pulleys axially in the direction toward the belt and for pushing the pulleys axially toward one another to an extent such that when the toothed belt is running on the belt running surfaces of the pulleys, the belt running surfaces of the pulleys raise the toothed belt radially from the first gearwheel for moving the belt at the first gearwheel from the meshed position to the demeshed position; the

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engagement and disengagement device further comprising an engager selectively movable into contact with the outside of the toothed belt, the engager being moveable transversely to the rotation axis of the first gearwheel and being moveable for applying an engagement force to the outside of the toothed belt for tensioning the toothed belt to a sufficient extent that the belt pressure on the running surfaces presses the two pulleys axially away from one another to an extent that when the toothed belt runs on the belt running surfaces of the pulleys, the toothed belt becomes seated radially onto the gearwheel such that the toothed belt is moved from the demeshed position to the meshed position with the gearwheel; regarding claim 13, a pulley arranged at a respective axial side of the first wheel, the pulley is freely rotatable in relation to the first wheel, the pulley has an axis of rotation which is in alignment with the axis of rotation of the first wheel and the pulley is being arranged to be axially movable in relationship to the first wheel; the pulley has an annular, radially outwardly facing, belt running surface which is oriented to descend radially in the direction toward the first wheel and the running surface being oriented obliquely to the axis of rotation of the pulley; the engagement and disengagement device includes a disengager positioned and connected for acting on the pulley and for applying a disengagement force which urges the pulley axially in the direction toward the belt to an extent such that when the belt is running on the belt running surface of the pulley, the belt running surface of the pulleys raises the belt radially from the first wheel for moving the belt at the first wheel from the engaged position to the disengaged position; the engagement and disengagement device further comprising an engager selectively movable into contact with the outside

of the belt, the engager being moveable transversely to the rotation axis of the first wheel and being moveable for applying an engagement force to the outside of the belt for tensioning the belt to a sufficient extent that the belt pressure on the running surface presses the pulley axially away from belt to an extent that when the belt runs on the belt running surface of the pulley, the belt becomes seated radially onto the wheel such that the belt is moved from the disengaged position to the engaged position with the wheel.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vicky A. Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7106. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:00a-3:30p).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Bucci can be reached on (571) 272-7099. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Vicky A. Johnson 9/30/00  
Examiner  
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